(c) the value of total import carried out by these units during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith percentage of such export and import in comparison to the total value of the country's import and export, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has set up seven Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in the country at kandla (Gujarat), Bombay (Maharashtra), Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Cochin (Kerala), Falta (West Bengal) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). As on 31st March, 2000, 708 units are in operation in these Zones.

(c) The value of total exports and imports effected by EPZ units during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and its percentage share in the total exports and imports of the country are given below:

Year	Export from. EPZs (Rs. crores)	%age share of EPZ exports in the total exports	Imports by EPZs (Rs. Crores)	%age share of EPZ imports in the total imports
1997-98	4817.30	3.70	2661.89	1.72
1998-99	5252.48	3.71	2120.25	1.18
1999-2000 Provisional	6707.44	4.12	3079.72	1.53

Signing of Trade Agreement with Mauritius

5188. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently out of four agreements signed with Mauritius, and agreement on trade was signed with the contention that the trade between two countries would grow further;

(b) if so, the percentage of growth of trade between two countries;

(c) what are the items for export and import from and to India; and

(d) whether the balance of payment would be in favour of India and if so, the what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, sir it is a fact that a bilateral Trade Agreement was one of the Agreements signed recently with Mauritius.

(b) The percentage growth of trade between two countries during the period April-January 1999-2000 over the correspondings period of previous year has been 14.35%

(c) The major items of export to Mauritius are Cotton yarn, fabrics, made ups etc., manmade yarn, fabrics, madeups, gems & jewellery, ready made garment of cotton including accessories, rice-basmati, meat & preparations, machinery and instruments, transport equipments, paper/wood products, cosmetic/ toiletries etc, glass/glassware/ceramics, plastic & linoleum products, drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals, oil meals, marine products, leather goods, electronic goods, inorganic/organic/agro chemicals, natural silk yarn, fabrics, madeups, fresh vegetables, handicrafts (excluding handmade carpets), pulses, readymade garments of manmade fibres, rubber manufactured products except footwear etc.

The major items of Import from mauritius are Metalifers ores & metal scrap, textile yarn, fabrics, madeup articles, cashew nuts, cotton raw & waste, pulp & waste paper, professional instruments, etc, except electronics, organic chemicals, transport equipments, machinery except electrical & electronics, manufactures of metals etc.

(d) The trend of balance of trade shown below indicates that balance of trade has consistently been in favour of India. The Agreement signed is not likely to have any adverse effects on our balance of payments or balance of trade.

India's Trade with Mauritius

(in Rs. Crore)

S.No.	Year	Export	Import	Balance of Trade
1.	1992-93	172.66	0.86	171.80
2.	1993-94	269.71	1.30	268.41
3.	1994-95	357.55	4.82	352.73
4.	1995-96	454.97	28.89	426.08
5.	1996-97	572.66	14.20	558.46
6.	1997-98	671.34	22.42	648.92
7.	1998-99	662.25	08.62	653.63
8.	1999-2000 (Apr. Jan.)	653.29	8.15	645.14

Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta